



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - Public distribution

Date: 1/4/2008

GAIN Report Number: CI8001

Chile

Livestock and Products

Poultry Production

2008

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Report Highlights:

The Chilean poultry production which has expanded significantly during the last decade and has become the most important source animal protein in the country has gained access to the US market as of last December, 2007

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
Santiago [CI1]
[CI]

The poultry industry has expanded at a surprisingly rate during the last two decades. Poultry meat availability for domestic consumption has grown over 200 percent during this two decades, reaching a per capita consumption of almost 34 Kg by 2006. Poultry meat has become the most important source of animal protein in Chile. Exports, which in 1991 reached only US\$13.6 million, exceeded US\$150 million in 2006. Presently, Chile exports poultry products to 26 different countries. The industry during the last few years has invested significantly in the poultry industry, modernizing production systems, introducing state of the art technologies and providing direct and indirect employment to over 20,000 workers.

In 2007 two new markets have been opened for the Chilean poultry industry, the Russian and the U.S. markets. Chile can export poultry products to the United States starting Dec. 3 of 2007 and has presently a yearly duty free quota of 8,400 metric tons. It is expected that in 2013 the United States will become the most important export market for Chilean poultry products, as was indicated by industry sources.

Table: Chile - Production, Trade and Consumption of Poultry (In Metric Tons)				
Year	Production	Exports	Imports	Consumption
2004	446,233	45,520	9,244	409,957
2005	456,689	59,915	13,456	410,229
2006	517,048	63,535	18,296	471,809
2007 e	484,952	35,782	25,735	474,905
2008 p	532,767	58,520	29,187	503,434
2009 p	557,875	69,750	35,025	523,150
2010 p	597,264	83,580	40,279	553,963
Notes: e=estimated, p=projected				
Source:				

Exports to the US which will start most likely beginning of 2008 is expected to reach 12,000 MT in 2010, mainly of raw chicken breasts, according to the industry estimates. These are based on its actual and future production capacity and its decision of maintaining an increasing presence in the export market.

The smaller production and export shown in our table for 2007, is a consequence of a fire which destroyed the processing plant located in San Vicente, Region VI. The plant stayed out of production from November 26, 2006 through September 2007.

Imports of poultry meat started in 2003. All imports are from Argentina and these have been expanding significantly every year since then.

Domestic consumption of poultry meat grew another 11 percent in 2006 and became the most important source of animal protein in Chile, mainly as a result of the higher prices of beef during the same period of time, which resulted by a significant fall of beef imports. Per capita consumption of poultry meat in 2006 was 33.9 kilos, followed by pork with 22.5 kilos and beef with 22.0 kilos.